



1975 Round 2 Saturday 29th March Lidcombe Oval



Western Suburbs 13

def.

South Sydney 2

John DORAHY
 Ron GITEAU
 Stephen KNIGHT
 Robbie PARKER
 Russell MULLINS
 Tim MURPHY
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
 Chris WELLMAN
 Geoff FOSTER
 Mick LIUBINSKAS
 John DONNELLY
 Shane DAY
 Jim MURPHY
 Peter YOUNG

Fullback
Wing
Centre
Centre
Wing
Five-eighth
Half
Lock
Second Row
Second Row
Front Row
Hooker
Front Row
Replacement

Eric SIMMS
 Owen O'DONNELL
 Paul SAIT
 Greg PURCELL
 Peter Van GULIK
 Jeff WITHERS
 Bob GRANT
 John DYKES
 Gary STEVENS
 Bob McCARTHY (c)
 Harry EDEN
 George PIGGINS
 John O'NEILL



Tries

John DORAHY
 Mick LIUBINSKAS
 Jim MURPHY

Goals

John DORAHY (2)

Eric SIMMS (1)

Match Description

South Sydney: Full-back: E Simms; three-quarters: O O'Donnell, P Sait, G Purcell, P Van Gulik; five-eighth: J Withers; half: R Grant; forwards: J Dykes, G Stevens, R McCarthy (c), H Eden, G Piggins, J O'Neill

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: R Giteau, R Parker, S Knight, R Mullins; five-eighth: T Murphy; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: C Wellman, M Liubinskas, G Foster, J Donnelly, S Day, J Murphy **Referee: R Humphreys (Rugby League Week 5th April 1975)**

Wests scored a convincing 13-2 win over Souths at Lidcombe Oval yesterday in conditions that almost forced play to be abandoned. The floodlights had to be turned on as players battled in a torrential storm that broke moments before half-time. Unpredictable Wests' full-back John Dorahy was initially a villain and finally the hero of the Magpies' win. After missing five successive shots at goal Dorahy scored a brilliant try, set up another and kicked two vital late goals. Wests opened with a furious blitz on the Souths' tryline. Sustained passing rushes had Souths' defence in all sorts of bother, and the match was only 40 seconds old before the Rabbitohs cracked. In a movement starting inside the Souths' corner, half-back Tom Raudonikis combined with lock-forward Chris Wellman who worked play wide and found full-back John Dorahy chiming in. Dorahy's pass found second-rower Mick Liubinskas bursting through and he raced across unopposed. Dorahy was wide with the conversion attempt but Wests led 3-0 and were in control. Sweeping back to the attack, Wests again had Souths under tremendous pressure. But Dorahy, having a shocking day with the boot, missed four successive penalty shots in the space of 10 minutes, one of them from in front. But Souths were battling to stay in the game. In the 10th minute, Souths' full-back Eric Simms landed a penalty goal for 3-2. The floodlights were turned on at Lidcombe with players barely visible in the gloom and heavy rain. Wests played a man short for the last few minutes of the first half when prop-forward Jim Murphy was forced off with a bad cut eye. With the ball becoming increasingly difficult to handle, both sides missed chances. Wests led 3-2 at the break. Fifteen minutes into the second-half, Wests raced to a 6-2 lead following the brilliant individual try by Dorahy. The full-back raced from his own corner beating several tackles and finally left Simms standing to score. But again, Dorahy missed the conversion. Raudonikis, Wests' skipper, decided to persevere with Dorahy as a kicker, and the move finally paid off in the 25th minute. Dorahy landed a vital penalty from wide out and Wests led 8-2. Souths were winning plenty of ball from the scrums, but their forwards failed to improve on their poor showing last week against Norths. Wests' bustling young pack had their measure. They missed a chance when Raudonikis lost a greasy ball close to Souths' line. **(Sunday Mirror 30th March 1975)**

Notes: The second half of this match was played in atrocious conditions. A flash storm caused the floodlights to be turned on and there was consideration given to abandoning the game. At the time, Wests were well in control, with Jim Murphy and John Donnelly doing the bullocking work up front and Tim Murphy setting up the backs. Souths won the first half scrums 8-1 and Dorahy missed his first six attempts at goal so Wests had some minuses, but in the end the brilliant play of John Dorahy turned the match. He scored a superb weaving, swerving try where he beat five defenders and then kicked the last two goals for a convincing victory.